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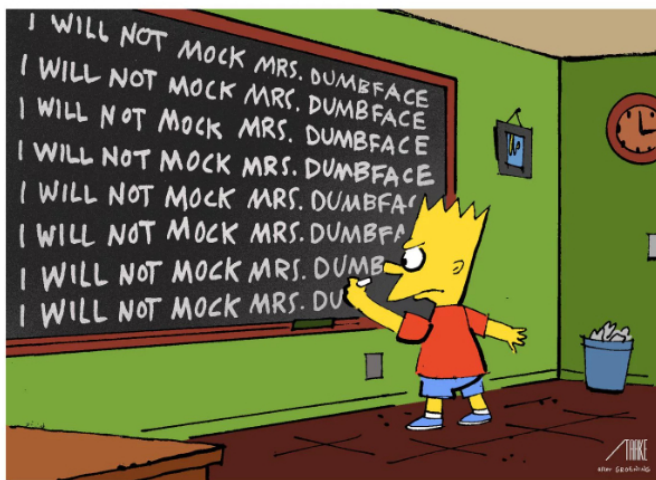
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Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1273: Come to our aid(e) – restocking the Cabinet

Tell us who (or what!) would be a better hire in a federal job; plus winning ‘bank heads’



He'd probably give a better "60 Minutes" interview, too. (Bob Staake for The Washington Post, with apologies to Matt Groening and "The Simpsons")

By Pat Myers March 29 [Email the author](#)

(Click [here to skip down](#) to this week's winning bank headlines)

Bart Simpson for secretary of education: He's had 28 years of public school experience, including much time with school boards.

If you saw the alleged presidential magazine-spanker give a more articulate and persuasive account of herself on "60 Minutes" last Sunday than Education Secretary [Betsy DeVos did](#) two weeks earlier, it might have occurred to you that, just maybe, not every government position has been filled with the very best and very brightest the nation has to offer.

Which brings us to this week's contest, suggested to the Empress by 12-time Loser Chris Damm: **Explain why a particular person — or thing — ought to fill a Cabinet post or other U.S. government position**, either a real one or a job you think up. This is somewhat like our contest from 2008 — posted shortly after Sarah Palin was named to the GOP ticket — in which we posted a list of random items (e.g., a moss-covered rock, Krusty the Clown, tapioca pudding) and asked why any of them would be qualified to be president of the United States. This time, though, you get to choose the position as well as who might fill it.

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Most Read Entertainment

- 1 Review**
The best science fiction and fantasy to read this month 
- 2** First glimpse of Kennedy Center's much delayed expansion unveiled 
- 3 Review**
Sex, politics and art painted in broad strokes in 'Botticelli in the' 

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1273 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a set of **Body Parts Sushi Gummy Candy**, which is exactly that: gummy candy fashioned to look very much like pieces of sushi — little pads of “rice” wrapped with strips of “nori,” except that instead of a little piece of tuna or eel on top, it’s an eyeball, nose, bloody ear, fingertip, etc. Includes chopsticks! Donated by Loser Daphne Steinberg, who’s had it lying around for years.

Other runners-up win our “**You Gotta Play to Lose**” Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, “**I Got a B in Punmanship**.” Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, “**We’ve Seen Better**” or “**IDiot Card**.” First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” (**FirStink** for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, April 9**; results published April 29 in print, April 26 online. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week’s results is by Chris Doyle; Jesse Frankovich wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev.

The Style Conversational The Empress’s weekly online column, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses the new contest and results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv; this week the E looks back on our 2008 contest for presidential candidates and tickets.

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .](#)

HAR HEADS: THE WINNING BANK HEADLINES FROM WEEK 1269

In [Week 1269](#), our perennial Mess With Our Heads contest, we asked you to find a current headline in The Post or elsewhere and reinterpret it by adding a bank head, or subtitle.

4th place:

Has someone hacked your webcam?

Because you look pretty funny reading this in your underwear right now
(Bill Dorner, Indianapolis)

3rd place:

If raw fish is too gross for you, you could win some fake raw human body parts.

Mueller evidence appears to contradict Prince statement

Investigators found at least 1 thing that compares 2 U (Frank Mann, Washington)

2nd place

and the winner of ‘How to Know When You’re Dating a Loser’:

D.C.-area forecast: Some wet snowflakes possible today

Pipe bursts in Washington Post newsroom (David Kleinbard, Mamaroneck, N.Y.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Luckily for world, Trump’s no Xi

Miss Rome says he is “at most a VII” (Elden Carnahan, Laurel, Md.)

Subtitles: Honorable mentions

Lawmaker drops bid for [Bowser](#) to testify

Senator Donald Trump of his dog as his emblematic character with...


Fire’

4 Celebrities, fashion insiders react to death of Kate Spade




5 Oprah Winfrey picks prison memoir for her book club





Word Wipe
Word game



Mahjongg Dimensions
Arcade game

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Senator aetnea use of nis aog as nis oniy positive character witness

(Margaret Welsh, Oakton, Va.)

Pill may be able to mimic the effects of exercise

Pill may be able to mimic the effects of exercise

Trial subjects report blisters, tennis elbow after watching TV (Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.)

2-year-old girl meets Obama: 'She's a queen'

Betsy DeVos slams 'failed liberal' preschools (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Using the Courts to Destroy Unions

National Divorce Lawyers Association announces new motto (Steve Honley, Washington)

The jobs U.S. workers won't take

First lady tops the list (Rob Wolf, Gaithersburg, Md.; Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

Title hopes dashed

Redskins hold first preseason practice (Amy Harris, Charlottesville, Va.)

High heels are the worst, and women are finally ditching them

'That jerk was always stoned,' says ex-girlfriend (Frank Mann)

Rear seat retains repute as safest part of car, but not for adults, older teens

Study points to increased pregnancy rate (Tom Logan, Sterling, Va., who last got Invite ink 24 years ago)

Surfer who fought off a shark will retire

Wants to spend more time fighting off his family (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

What's New in Hip and Knee Replacement?

Mostly just hip and knee (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

Four-Hand Piano Concert

Sellout expected for guest artist from Mars (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

.....

Md. court reverses database 'mistake'

Transcriber didn't know that locals pronounce 'Baltimore' and 'bomber' identically (Ivars Kuskevics, Takoma Park, Md.)

Car giveaway fills the church and hearts: 'God is amazing'

Oprah shows why presidency would be demotion (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Rings for 1987 players

washingtonpost.com

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NFL adopts its own version of 'participation trophy' (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

Valentino's gowns will take your breath away

Whalebone corsets show up again on Milan runways (John McCooey, Rehoboth Beach, Del.; John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.; David Peckarsky, Tucson)

Tangled, Timeless Visions of the South

Brazilian Waxes Losing Popularity (Danielle Nowlin)

Harvey Schmidt: Composed longest-running musical in history

17-hour slog tested audience's patience (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Interior Department forces out assistant who frequently shared falsehoods about Obama, Clinton and minorities

'Frequent' not good enough, administration declares (Dudley Thompson, Cary, N.C.)

Don't replace . . . reface!

Taking surgeon friend's advice, president decides to stick with 47-year-old Melania, on one condition (Steve Honley)

Late-game execution is the difference

Punishment seems awfully strict for a traveling call, says Wizards coach, but a win's a win . . . (Bill Lieberman, Ellicott City, Md.)

Nats may call on Montero to back up behind plate

Rookie catcher keeps crouching in front of batters (Jeff Shirley)

Robber on bicycle struck four times this year, police say

'I told him to watch out for traffic while stealing purses,' mother says (Matthew Zimmer, New York)

Tree at Mount Vernon, linked to George Washington, felled in storm

C'mon, George, don't lie — we know it was you (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

She was beautiful *and* salty

Lot's wife fondly remembered (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

The \$560 million secret behind this winning Powerball ticket

'I picked the right numbers,' area woman reveals (Alan Duxbury, Carlisle, Pa., a First Offender)

Drawn by decay

White House tourist lines stretch for blocks (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

Color pairings that should be hideous are, somehow, exquisite

Fashion shows are SO much better on acid (Gary Crockett)

The end of two-wing parties

Host promises to triple KFC order for next Super Bowl fete (Mark Raffman)

Where Might Trump and Kim Jong-un Meet? Here Are Some Possibilities

Mordor's Mount Doom, Dante's Ninth Circle of Hell top list (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

Why do we understand so little about breast feeding?

Primary consumers too young to share their thoughts (Rob Wolf)

Why I could no longer serve the president

"I just couldn't keep putting ketchup on his steak!" laments agonized waiter (Steve Honley)

Chances of contempt for Bannon fade in GOP probe

Compared with other probees, 'we just like the big lunk,' Ryan says (Ann Martin, College Park, Md.; Catherine Hagman, Silver Spring, Md.)

Re-creating a volcanic eruption — indoors

The easy way to do a colonoscopy prep (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

Hicks to step down as communications director

Cletus and Jethro Jenkins shared WH job, will return to selling moonshine (Elden Carnahan)

Feeling low is depressingly common in U.S.

Below-the-belt groping incidents increasing, study finds (Chris Doyle)

'I wonder: Am I wanted?'

Fugitives can't resist looking for their portraits on post office walls (Perry Beider, Silver Spring, Md.)

Personal Finance newsletter

Your retirement on Mondays and personal finance on Thursdays, with syndicated columnist and expert Michelle Singletary.


[Sign up](#)

And Last: Mess With Our Heads

Lettuce isn't just for salad anymore — try these new recipes (Matthew Zimmer)

Still running — deadline Monday night, April 2: Our contest for creative curses. See wapo.st/invite1272.

DON'T MISS AN INVITE! [Sign up here](#) to receive a once-a-week email from the Empress as soon as The Style Invitational and Style Conversational go online every Thursday, complete with links to the columns.

 1 Comment



Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December



2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. [Follow @patmyersTWP](#)

The Post Recommends

Perspective

On this spot: Two history buffs debunk the story of a famous Civil War photo

Experts thought they knew when the picture of Confederates was taken. They were wrong.

14 hours ago



Opinion

I represented the wedding cake couple. We lost a battle but won the war.

Charlie Craig and David Mullins could go back into Masterpiece Cakeshop and request a cake — and Jack Phillips would have no First Amendment right to turn them away.

1 day ago



Opinion

The Trump era can't end soon enough

Trump's absurd policy of alienating allies seems to be driven by narcissism, ignorance of international relations and ignorance of economics.

1 day ago



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